

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3-11, and 13-18 as indicated below. Please add new claims 19-22. Deletions appear in ~~strikethrough font~~, and additions are underlined. The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete listing of claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a decorative laminate comprising a carrying layer comprising the following steps:
 - impregnating a substrate with a thermosetting resin and further impregnating or coating the so impregnated substrate with a dispersion comprising thermally expandable microspheres, thereby forming a layered material;
 - ~~— assembling the carrying layer with a decorative layer impregnated with a thermosetting;~~
 - assembling the laminate by positioning the layered material comprising thermally expandable microspheres under a carrying layer and the layered material whereby the layered material is positioned underside and the by positioning a decorative layer impregnated with a thermosetting resin is positioned topside on top of the carrying layer.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the decorative layer is impregnated with a melamine resin.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the layered material comprising thermally expandable microspheres forms the outermost layer on the underside of the decorative laminate.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein the method further comprises expanding the microspheres.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, further comprising; ~~the step of~~

heating at least the layered material comprising thermally expandable microspheres, without pressing, above the temperature at which the microspheres start to expand.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein the layered material comprising thermally expandable microspheres further comprises a paper.
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein the laminate is a decorative flooring material.
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein the laminate is a parquet flooring material.
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~, claim 1, wherein the thermally expandable microspheres are dispersed in a thermoplastic polymer.
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 89~~, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature between from about -100 °C and to about + 10°C, ~~preferably between -80 °C and -20°C~~.
11. (Currently Amended) A ~~layered~~ material comprising a carrying layer, a decorative layer and a layered material;

wherein the layered material comprises a substrate ~~which is that has been~~
impregnated with a thermosetting resin and ~~is has been~~ further impregnated or
coated with a dispersion comprising expandable microspheres; and
wherein said layered material is positioned ~~underside~~ under the carrying layer
and the decorative layer is positioned ~~topside~~ on top of the carrying layer.

12. (Original) A layered material according to claim 11 wherein the microspheres are dispersed within a thermoplastic polymer.
13. (Currently Amended) A layered material according to claim 12, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature ~~between~~ from about
-100 °C and to about + 10°C, ~~preferably between -80 °C and -20°C.~~
14. (Currently Amended) A layered flooring material obtainable by a method comprising:
impregnating a substrate with a thermosetting resin;
further coating or impregnating the so impregnated substrate with thermally expandable microspheres; and
assembling the layered flooring material bringing together by positioning the so
impregnated substrate with on top of a carrying layer comprising topside, and by
positioning a decorative layer impregnated with a thermosetting resin, wherein
~~said substrate is positioned underside~~ under the carrying layer.
15. (Currently Amended) A layered flooring material ~~obtainable~~ according to claim 14, wherein the thermally expandable microspheres are dispersed in a continuous phase comprising a thermoplastic polymer ~~preferably having a glass transition temperature between -100 °C and + 10°C, preferably between -80 °C and -20°C.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A layered flooring material ~~obtainable according to claim 14, or 15~~ wherein the method for obtaining the layered flooring material further comprises heating is conducted under substantial pressure.
17. (Currently Amended) A layered material according to ~~any of the claims 11-16,~~ claim 11, wherein the ~~disperse phase dispersion~~ comprises a polyurethane.
18. (Currently Amended) A layered material according to ~~any of the claims 11-17,~~ claim 11, wherein the substrate ~~is~~ comprises a paper.
19. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature from about -80 °C to about -20°C.
20. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature from about -80 °C to about -20°C.
21. (New) A layered flooring material according to claim 15, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature from about -100 °C to about +10°C.
22. (New) A layered flooring material according to claim 21, wherein the thermoplastic polymer has a glass transition temperature from about -80 °C to about -20°C.